

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents

Conducted December 27-29, 2014

Margin of Error $\pm 4.3\%$

1. Some people seem to follow what's going on in government and public affairs most of the time, whether there's an election going on or not. Others aren't that interested. Would you say you follow what's going on in government and public affairs...?

Most of the time	48%
Some of the time	30%
Only now and then	13%
Hardly at all	8%
Don't know	1%

2. Would you say things in this country today are...

Generally headed in the right direction	29%
Off on the wrong track	54%
Not sure	16%

3. Do you usually stay awake past midnight on New Year's Eve?

Yes	72%
No	26%
Not sure	2%

4. Will you stay awake past midnight on New Year's Eve this year?

Yes	68%
No	18%
Not sure	14%

5. Do you usually attend a party or other celebration on New Year's Eve?

Yes 27%
No 68%
Not sure 5%

6. Will you attend a party or other celebration on New Year's Eve this year?

Yes 24%
No 60%
Not sure 15%

7. Have you ever watched the crystal ball drop in Times Square on New Year's Eve? (either on television or live in Times Square)

Yes 84%
No 13%
Not sure 2%

8. Will you watch the crystal ball drop in Times Square on New Year's Eve this year? (either on television or live in Times Square)

Yes 40%
No 31%
Not sure 29%

9. Do you normally like or dislike New Year's Eve?

Like a lot 26%
Like somewhat 51%
Dislike somewhat 12%
Dislike a lot 3%
Not sure 8%

10. Do you usually attend religious services on New Year's Day?

Yes	15%
No	82%
Not sure	3%

11. Will you attend religious services on New Year's Day this year?

Yes	13%
No	78%
Not sure	9%

12. Looking back at 2014, how would you describe the year for you and your family?

A very good year	11%
A good year	53%
A bad year	28%
A very bad year	9%

13. Looking back at 2014, how would you describe the year for the world?

A very good year	3%
A good year	28%
A bad year	53%
A very bad year	17%

14. In the last year, has the United States become more respected or less respected in the world?

More respected	8%
No change	37%
Less respected	54%

15. Do you think things are better off or worse off than they were a year ago when it comes to:

	Much better	Somewhat better	No change	Somewhat worse	Much worse	Not sure
The Middle East	2%	4%	22%	26%	39%	7%
The war in Afghanistan	6%	16%	34%	21%	14%	9%
Energy issues	6%	24%	35%	19%	10%	7%
The environment	3%	12%	50%	21%	8%	6%
The economy in your area	6%	28%	33%	16%	11%	6%
Job security	3%	22%	34%	19%	18%	4%
Government spending	4%	9%	28%	24%	29%	5%
Health care coverage	12%	22%	17%	19%	26%	4%
Education	5%	10%	40%	22%	17%	6%
Social Security and Medicare	3%	10%	38%	27%	14%	7%
The U.S. financial system	5%	16%	30%	22%	22%	5%
Wall Street	10%	21%	34%	14%	11%	10%

16. Since taking office, do you think Barack Obama has accomplished...

More than I expected	19%
About what I expected	32%
Less than I expected	43%
Not sure	6%

17. As a President, how do you think Barack Obama will go down in history?

Outstanding	9%
Above Average	19%
Average	21%
Below Average	13%
Poor	35%
Not Sure	3%

18. How much progress has Barack Obama made in achieving the following campaign promises?

	A lot	Some	Only a little	None	Not sure
Changing the partisan tone in Washington	5%	12%	11%	62%	9%
Improving the U.S. image in the world	12%	22%	14%	46%	5%
Improving the economy	22%	24%	15%	35%	4%

19. Do you think the current Congress has accomplished more or less than Congress usually does in a year?

More than usual	3%
About the same	30%
Less than usual	56%
Not sure	11%

20. Who is more to blame for Congress achieving less than it usually does in a year?

Asked if respondent says Congress accomplished less than usual

Republicans in Congress	37%
Democrats in Congress	19%
Both equally	40%
Neither	3%
Not sure	2%

21. Do you think the health care reform law should be expanded, kept the same, or repealed?

Expanded	31%
Kept the same	17%
Repealed	40%
Not sure	12%

22. From all that you know now, has the health care reform law been a complete success, a complete failure, or something in between?

A complete failure	20%
More of a failure than a success	23%
Equal amount of both failure and success	19%
More of a success than a failure	25%
A complete success	4%
Too early to tell	4%
Not sure	5%

23. Do you think the number of people with health insurance has increased, remained the same, or decreased over the last 12 months?

Increased	51%
Remained the same	19%
Decreased	18%
Don't know	12%

24. Do you think the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase by more or less than they usually do?

The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase more than they usually do	46%
The law has not had an effect on health insurance prices for most people	18%
The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase less than they usually do	17%
Not sure	19%

25. Did you have health insurance for all of 2013?

Yes	80%
No	20%

26. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	71%	25%	3%	1%
Immigration	46%	34%	14%	6%
The environment	40%	34%	17%	9%
Terrorism	54%	29%	12%	5%
Gay rights	23%	22%	23%	32%
Education	56%	33%	9%	3%
Health care	61%	31%	5%	2%
Social security	62%	28%	7%	2%
The budget deficit	49%	34%	11%	6%
The war in Afghanistan	29%	44%	19%	7%
Taxes	56%	33%	7%	4%
Medicare	53%	34%	10%	3%
Abortion	31%	34%	20%	15%
Foreign policy	40%	42%	12%	6%

27. Which of these is the **most** important issue for you?

The economy	26%
Immigration	6%
The environment	6%
Terrorism	7%
Gay rights	2%
Education	9%
Health care	8%
Social security	14%
The budget deficit	7%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	4%
Medicare	5%
Abortion	5%
Foreign policy	1%

28. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Barack Obama	23%	22%	13%	38%	3%
Joe Biden	17%	26%	16%	29%	13%
John Boehner	4%	20%	23%	35%	19%
Mitch McConnell	4%	18%	20%	29%	29%
Harry Reid	6%	19%	14%	36%	25%
Nancy Pelosi	9%	19%	14%	41%	17%

29. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Rand Paul	13%	25%	18%	21%	23%
Chris Christie	7%	22%	25%	27%	19%
Paul Ryan	13%	23%	15%	27%	23%
Jeb Bush	9%	26%	19%	28%	17%
Mike Huckabee	15%	22%	16%	26%	21%
Marco Rubio	10%	24%	13%	25%	29%
Hillary Clinton	22%	24%	12%	36%	7%
Elizabeth Warren	19%	15%	15%	20%	31%
Ted Cruz	12%	17%	13%	30%	28%
Scott Walker	13%	16%	10%	21%	40%
Brian Schweitzer	3%	9%	11%	9%	68%
Rick Perry	12%	21%	14%	30%	22%
Bernie Sanders	13%	12%	9%	16%	50%
Martin O'Malley	5%	10%	10%	12%	64%
Jim Webb	4%	11%	11%	10%	63%
Mitt Romney	16%	22%	21%	30%	11%
Lindsey Graham	6%	15%	17%	23%	39%
Ben Carson	19%	13%	8%	13%	47%

30. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

Strongly approve	17%
Somewhat approve	29%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	39%
Not sure	3%

31. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling these specific issues?

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	No opinion
The economy	19%	25%	14%	34%	8%
Immigration	19%	22%	11%	39%	9%
The environment	16%	26%	16%	26%	15%
Terrorism	17%	24%	17%	29%	12%
Gay rights	17%	26%	10%	26%	20%
Education	16%	27%	18%	25%	13%
Health care	26%	20%	10%	39%	5%
Social security	14%	25%	16%	29%	16%
The war in Afghanistan	14%	26%	19%	28%	13%
The budget deficit	15%	21%	16%	37%	11%
Taxes	13%	28%	14%	32%	12%
Medicare	17%	24%	15%	30%	14%
Abortion	12%	22%	12%	25%	29%
Foreign policy	14%	24%	15%	35%	12%

32. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the United States Congress is handling its job?

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	8%
Neither approve nor disapprove	19%
Somewhat disapprove	21%
Strongly disapprove	43%
Not sure	7%

33. Are you better off now than you were when President Obama first took office in 2009?

Better off now	25%
About the same	37%
Worse off now	33%
Not sure	5%

34. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	35%
Liberal	24%
Moderate	22%
Conservative	7%
Very conservative	1%
Not sure	10%

35. Would you say Barack Obama is a strong or a weak leader?

Very strong	16%
Somewhat strong	31%
Somewhat weak	22%
Very weak	31%

36. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	42%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	47%
Not sure	11%

37. Regardless of whether you agree with him, do you like Barack Obama as a person?

Like a lot	30%
Like somewhat	29%
Dislike	30%
Not sure	11%

38. Which of these words would you use to describe Barack Obama?

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	42%	32%	27%
Bold	25%	56%	19%
Effective	19%	46%	35%
Exciting	12%	64%	25%
Experienced	18%	53%	30%
Honest	26%	39%	36%
Hypocritical	37%	39%	23%
Inspiring	26%	47%	27%
Intelligent	50%	34%	16%
Partisan	26%	60%	13%
Patriotic	23%	45%	32%
Religious	12%	58%	30%
Sincere	28%	39%	33%
Steady	25%	56%	19%
Strong	25%	45%	29%

39. In general, how would you describe your own political viewpoint?

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	36%
Conservative	30%
Very conservative	9%
Not sure	1%

40. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	69%
No	29%
Don't know	1%

41. If an election for president was going to be held now, would you vote for...

Not a registered voter	31%
The Democratic Party candidate	28%
The Republican Party candidate	23%
Other	4%
Not sure	13%
I would not vote	1%

42. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the member of the US House of Representatives that represents your Congressional district is handling his or her job?

Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	18%
Neither approve nor disapprove	24%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	19%
Not sure	17%

43. Overall, do you think the economy is getting better or worse?

Getting better	33%
About the same	35%
Getting worse	27%
Not sure	6%

44. Do you think the stock market will be higher or lower 12 months from now?

Higher	27%
About the same	35%
Lower	14%
Not sure	25%

45. Would you say that you and your family are...

Better off financially than you were a year ago	21%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	44%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	30%
Not sure	5%

46. Is the place where you live owned or rented?

Owned by you or your family	61%
Rented from someone else	37%
Other	2%

47. Do you think the value of your home has increased or decreased in the last year?

Asked of those who own their own homes

Increased	27%
Stayed about the same	45%
Decreased	20%
Not sure	8%

48. Do you think home prices in your area have increased or decreased in the last year?

Asked of those who do NOT own their own homes

Increased	40%
Stayed about the same	31%
Decreased	9%
Not sure	20%

49. Thinking ahead, do you think home prices in your area will increase or decrease in the next year?

Will increase a lot	7%
Will increase a little	34%
Will stay about the same	32%
Will decrease a little	8%
Will decrease a lot	3%
Not sure	16%

50. How worried are you about making your mortgage payments?

Asked of those who own their own homes

Very worried	9%
Somewhat worried	22%
Not worried	34%
Don't have mortgage payments	36%

51. Six months from now, do you think there will be...

More jobs	23%
The same amount of jobs	41%
Fewer jobs	23%
Not sure	13%

52. We'd like to know whether you or someone in your immediate family is currently serving or has ever served in the U.S. military. Immediate family is defined as your parents, siblings, spouse, and children. Please check all boxes that apply.

Military Household - I am	1%
Military Household - Family	8%
Military Household - I served previously	12%
Military Household - Family served previously	37%
Military Household - None	50%

53. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

54. Generally speaking, do you support or oppose the goals of the Tea Party movement?

Strongly support	14%
Somewhat support	18%
Neither support, nor oppose	20%
Somewhat oppose	10%
Strongly oppose	25%
Not sure	14%

55. Education

No high school	10%
High school graduate	31%
Some college	27%
2-year college	7%
4-year college	16%
Post-graduate	9%

56. Age

18-29	25%
30-44	26%
45-64	34%
65+	16%

57. Race

White	67%
Black	13%
Hispanic	11%
Other	8%

58. Region

Northeast	19%
Midwest	24%
South	37%
West	20%

59. Party Identification

Democratic	39%
Independent	37%
Republican	24%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	December 27-29, 2014
Target population	U.S. citizens, aged 18 and over.
Sampling method	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in Internet panel using sample matching. A random sample (stratified by age, gender, race, education, and region) was selected from the 2010 American Community Study. Voter registration was imputed from the November 2010 Current Population Survey Registration and Voting Supplement. Religion, political interest, minor party identification, and non-placement on an ideology scale, were imputed from the 2008 Pew Religion in American Life Survey.
Weighting	The sample was weighted using propensity scores based on age, gender, race, education, news interest, voter registration, and non-placement on an ideology scale. The weights range from 0.1 to 5, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.96.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.3% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	21 questions not reported.